AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims in above-identified patent application as follows and as shown on the Claims Listing appended hereto.

Please withdraw claims 53-69 from examination and prosecution, they belonging to a non-elected claims group.

Please amend claims 44, 45, 49, and 51 as follows:

- 44. A method for the <u>multiepitope</u> detection of <u>an a homogeneous or heterogeneous</u> analyte <u>population</u> in a sample, the <u>analyte comprising at least two epitopes</u>, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a solid phase comprising a non-porous support, and a first and a second at least two spatially separate test areas, and a first and a second receptor, each test area comprising a the first and second receptors capable of binding specifically with said analyte but to different epitopes of the analyte, said the first receptors being bound directly or indirectly to the non-porous support first test area and the second receptor bound directly or indirectly to the second test area, there being no more than one analyte-specific receptor bound per test area and, in the case of a heterogeneous analyte, binding to a partial population of the analyte, and in the case of a homogeneous analyte, binding to different epitopes of the analyte,
 - (b) contacting the sample with the solid phase and with a detection reagent comprising a <u>third</u> receptor <u>that binds eapable of binding</u> with the analyte and <u>that is bound or eapable of being bound</u> to a signal generating group, and

(c) determining the presence or amount of the signal generating group bound to the test areas via the analyte as a measure of the analyte in said sample.

- of HIV I, HIV II, HBV, and HCV antibodies and HIV antigens a homogeneous antigen or antibody population, a heterogeneous antibody population, an antigen mixture and a mixture of antigens and antibodies.
- 49. A solid phase for the <u>multiepitope</u> detection of <u>an</u> a homogeneous or heterogeneous analyte population in a sample, the analyte comprising at least two epitopes, the solid phase comprising a non-porous support, a first and a second and at least two spatially separate test areas, each test area comprising a <u>and a first and a second receptor</u>, the receptors eapable of binding specifically to the analyte but to different epitopes of the analyte, said the first receptors being bound directly or indirectly to the <u>first test area and the second receptor bound directly or indirectly to the second test area, there being no more than one analyte-specific receptor bound per test area non-porous support and, in the case of a heterogeneous analyte, binding to a partial population of the analyte, and in the case of a homogeneous analyte, binding to different epitopes of the analyte.</u>
- 51. A test kit for the <u>multiepitope</u> detection of an analyte in a sample, the <u>analyte</u> comprising at least two epitopes, the test kit comprising the <u>a</u> solid phase of according to claim 49 and a detection reagent comprising a <u>third</u> receptor eapable of binding that binds with the analyte and <u>that is</u> bound or capable of being bound to a signal generating group.